

Application No. 10/656,857
Amendment dated November 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 1, 2005

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action of August 1, 2005 and the interview of October 26, 2005. This Amendment is fully responsive thereto. Claims 1, 12, and 18 have been amended and new claim 32 presented. Support for these claims is self-evident. Claim 25 has also been amended, support for which may be found in the last two paragraphs of page 21 and in Figure 1.

As requested by the Examiner, the following is a recitation of the substance of the interview. Applicant proposed an amendment to claim 25 that the Examiner agreed would overcome rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Applicant also proposed new claim 32, which the Examiner agreed would not be obvious over the applied prior art. The Examiner suggested alternate claim language to claim 1 which would read over the applied prior art. Applicant proposed two discrete method steps for claim 1 of introducing the carbon dioxide and adjusting the associated electrical property value, which the Examiner feels better claims the invention. Applicant agreed to rewrite claims 12 and 18 into independent form to place them into allowable condition. The Examiner stated that the allowability of the claims would be subject to further search and review.

Consistent with the agreed upon issues at the interview, Applicant has taken the following actions. Claim 25 has been amended in order to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. New claim 32 has been presented which the Examiner agreed would not be obvious over the applied prior art. Claim 1 has been amended to include two discrete steps of introducing the carbon dioxide and adjusting the electrical property value, the form of which the Examiner agreed would read over the applied prior art. Claims 12 and 18 have been amended to place them into allowable, independent form.

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to phone number 571-273-8300 on this 4th day of November, 2005.



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